

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

public charity; and all laws exempting property from taxation other than the property mentioned in this Section shall be null and void.

"(b) The Legislature may, by general law, exempt property owned by a disabled veteran or by the surviving spouse and surviving minor children of a disabled veteran. A disabled veteran is a veteran of the armed services of the United States who is classified as disabled by the Veterans' Administration or by a successor to that agency; or the military service in which he served. A veteran who is certified as having a disability of less than 10 percent is not entitled to an exemption. A veteran having a disability rating of not less than 10 percent nor more than 30 percent may be granted an exemption from taxation for property valued at up to \$1,500. A veteran having a disability rating of more than 30 percent but not more than 50 percent may be granted an exemption from taxation for property valued at up to \$2,000. A veteran having a disability rating of more than 50 percent but not more than 70 percent may be granted an exemption from taxation for property valued at up to \$2,500. A veteran who has a disability rating of more than 70 percent, or a veteran who has a disability rating of not less than 10 percent and has attained the age of 65, or a disabled veteran whose disability consists of the loss or loss of use of one or more limbs, total blindness in one or both eyes, or paraplegia, may be granted an exemption from taxation for property valued at up to \$8,000. The spouse and children of any member of the United States Armed Forces who loses his life while on active duty will be granted an exemption from taxation for property valued at up to \$2,500. A deceased disabled veteran's surviving spouse and children may be granted an exemption which in the aggregate is equal to the exemption to which the decedent was entitled at the time he died."

Sec. 2. The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this state at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1972, at which election the ballots shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment allowing certain tax exemptions to disabled veterans, their surviving spouses and surviving minor children, and the surviving spouses and surviving minor children of members of the armed forces who lose their life while on active duty."

Adopted by the House on May 18, 1971: Yeas 140, Nays 0 and 1 present not voting; adopted by the Senate on May 27, 1971: Yeas 28, Nays 1 and 1 present not voting.

Signed by the Governor May 31, 1971.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—JUSTICES OF THE PEACE—COMPENSATION—SALARY BASIS

H. J. R. No. 41

Proposing an amendment to Article XVI, Section 61, of the Texas Constitution, to require the commissioners court in all counties of the state to compensate all justices of the peace on a salary basis beginning January 1, 1973.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Article XVI, Section 61, of the Texas Constitution, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 61. All district officers in the State of Texas and all county officers in counties having a population of twenty thousand (20,000) or

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more, according to the then last preceding Federal Census, shall be compensated on a salary basis. In all counties in this State, the Commissioners Courts shall be authorized to determine whether precinct officers shall be compensated on a fee basis or on a salary basis, with the exception that it shall be mandatory upon the Commissioners Courts, to compensate all justices of the peace, constables, deputy constables and precinct law enforcement officers on a salary basis beginning January 1, 1978; and in counties having a population of less than twenty thousand (20,000), according to the then last preceding Federal Census, the Commissioners Courts shall also have the authority to determine whether county officers shall be compensated on a fee basis or on a salary basis, with the exception that it shall be mandatory upon the Commissioners Courts to compensate all sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, county law enforcement officers including sheriffs who also perform the duties of assessor and collector of taxes, and their deputies, on a salary basis beginning January 1, 1949.

"All fees earned by district, county and precinct officers shall be paid into the county treasury where earned for the account of the proper fund, provided that fees incurred by the State, county and any municipality, or in case where a pauper's oath is filed, shall be paid into the county treasury when collected and provided that where any officer is compensated wholly on a fee basis such fees may be retained by such officer or paid into the treasury of the county as the Commissioners Court may direct. All Notaries Public, county surveyors and public weighers shall continue to be compensated on a fee basis."

Sec. 2. The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this state at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1972, at which election the ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment to require the commissioners court in all counties of the state to compensate all justices of the peace on a salary basis."

Adopted by the House on May 21, 1971: Yeas 139, Nays 0; adopted by the Senate on May 26, 1971: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Signed by the Governor May 31, 1971.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—COUNTY PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND—REDUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

H. J. R. No. 57

Proposing an amendment to Article VII, Constitution of the State of Texas, by adding a Section 6b to permit the commissioners court of a county to reduce the county permanent school fund and to provide for the per capita distribution and use of the money obtained from the reduction.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Article VII, Constitution of the State of Texas, be amended by adding a Section 6b, to read as follows:

"Section 6b. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6, Article VII, Constitution of the State of Texas, any county, acting through the commissioners court, may reduce the county permanent school fund of that